

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-02 EB-07 /024 W

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R 200230Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY SUVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5279

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, XP, US

SUBJECT: U.S. AID TO SOUTH PACIFIC

REF: STATE 204197

FOR EA/ANP

1. HALL-SQUIRE LETTER REGISTERED RESERVATIONS WITH PROPOSAL FOR AID TO REGIONAL SHIPPING LINE BECAUSE LINE WAS SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED IN NEWS ARTICLE AS LIKELY USAID PROJECT. BELIEVE SHIPPING AID MIGHT BE PROBLEM FOR SEVERAL REASONS: (A) PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS AT ESTABLISHING SHIPPING LINES IN REGION, PRIMARILY BY INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES, HAVE ALL BEEN ECONOMIC FAILURES, (B) APPEARS TO BE DISSENSION WITHIN THE FORUM ON DETAILS FOR THE PROPOSED SHIPPING LINE. (C) WE HESITATE TO SEE U.S. GET INVOLVED IN SPEC PROJECT UNTIL WE HAVE MORE INFORMATION AND HAVE HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH SPEC OFFICERS AND INDIVIDUAL FORUM MEMBERS APART FROM AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND (FOR REASONS MENTIONED IN LETTER). IN ANY CASE WE BELIEVE IT PREMATURE TO COMMIT U.S. TO SPECIFIC PROJECT UNTIL WE KNOW WHERE AID IS MOST NEEDED AND HOW MUCH US PREPARED TO GIVE.

2. SPEC RECENTLY CONCLUDED STUDY OF AID ACTIVITIES IN FORUM ISLAND COUNTRIES AND TASK FORCE HAS PRODUCED EXTENSIVE REPORT WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHANGES IN AID-GIVING AND RECEIVING PROCEDURES. STUDY CIRCULATED TO FORUM MEMBERS IN NAURU AND IS BEING CLOSELY HELD. WHEN RELEASED (IF RECOMM-
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ENDATIONS ARE ADOPTED BY MEMBERS) STUDY WILL BE USEFUL

GUIDELINE FOR OUR APPROACH TO AID IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC.

3. WE CONCUR REGIONAL APPROACH MOST APPROPRIATE FOR ANY
US AID ACTIVITIES IN AREA. AREAS THAT MIGHT BE CONSIDERED
ARE: A. SUPPORT FOR INSTITUTIONS THAT PROVIDE MANPOWER
TRAINING SUCH AS US UNIVERSITY EXTENSION PROGRAM NOW TOTALLY
RELIANT ON ACCESS TO NASA SATELLITE AND IT WOULD BE A BOON
IF WE CAN GUARANTEE USP CONTINUED ACCESS TO THIS KIND OF
COMMUNICATIONS RESOURCE. B. EXPANDED FULBRIGHT PROGRAM.
C. DEVELOPMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES INSTITUTE, AN AREA IN
WHICH US HAS PARTICULAR EXPERTISE AND SOUTH PACIFIC HAS
PARTICULAR NEED AND INTEREST. THIS WOULD FIT IN WITH POSSIBLE
REGIONAL FISHING ORGANIZATION.

HALL

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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